Supporting Statement for Form SSA-2519 Child Relationship Statement 20 CFR 404.355 & 404.731 OMB No. 0960-0116

# A. Justification

## 1. Introduction/Authoring Laws and Regulations

Section *216(h)(3)* of the *Social Security Act (Act)* provides the criteria the Social Security Administration (SSA) uses to determine entitlement of children to Social Security benefits under the deemed child provision. SSA may deem a child to an insured individual if: (1) the insured individual presents SSA with satisfactory evidence of parenthood and was living with or contributing to the child's support at certain specified times; or (2) the insured individual (a) acknowledged the child in writing; (b) was court decreed as the child's parent; or (c) was court ordered to support the child. *20 CFR 404.355* and *404.731* of the *Code of Federal Regulations* gives SSA the authority to collect this information.

### 2. Description of Collection

SSA employees use Form SSA-2519 to collect the information we need to determine whether children meet the entitlement requirements for Social Security benefits under the deemed child provision of the *Act*. SSA employees make benefit determinations based in part upon the information collected. Since the respondents may not be the individuals filing for benefits, their responses are voluntary. The possible modalities for collection are paper, telephone, or in-person interview. The respondents are people with knowledge of the relationship between the individuals filing for Social Security benefits and their alleged biological children.

## 3. Use of Information Technology to Collect the Information

SSA did not create an electronic version of Form SSA-2519 under the agency's Government Paperwork Elimination Act plan because the number of respondents for this collection is at the 50,000-respondent threshold for electronic implementation.

# 4. Why We Cannot Use Duplicate Information

The nature of the information we are collecting and the manner in which we are collecting it preclude duplication. SSA does not use another collection instrument to obtain similar data.

## 5. Minimizing Burden on Small Respondents

This collection does not affect small businesses or other entities.

## 6. Consequence of Not Collecting Information or Collecting it Less Frequently

SSA conducts this information collection in order to obtain data relevant to entitlement of a child under the deemed child provision in section 216(h)(3) of the Act. If we did not collect this information, the consequence could mean possible preclusion of entitlement. Therefore, we cannot collect this information less frequently. There are no technical or legal obstacles that prevent burden reduction.

#### 7. Special Circumstances

There are no special circumstances that would cause SSA to conduct this information collection in a manner inconsistent with 5 *CFR* 1320.5.

### 8. Solicitation of Public Comment and Other Consultations with the Public

SSA published the 60-day advance Federal Register Notice on November 9, 2012, at 77 FR 67435, and we received no public comments. The 30-day Notice published on January 8, 2013, at 78 FR 1296. If we receive any comments in response to the 30-day Notice, we will forward them to OMB. There have been no outside consultations with members of the public.

# 9. Payment or Gifts to Respondents

SSA provides no payment or gifts to the respondents.

# 10. Assurances of Confidentiality

SSA protects and holds confidential the information we collect in accordance with 42 *U.S.C.* 1306, 20 *CFR* 401 and 402, 5 *U.S.C.* 552 (Freedom of Information Act), 5 *U.S.C.* 552a (Privacy Act of 1974) and OMB Circular No. A-130.

## 11. Justification for Sensitive Questions

The information collection does not contain any questions of a sensitive nature.

# 12. Estimates of Public Reporting Burden

Approximately 50,000 respondents use Form SSA-2519 annually. We estimate an average response time of 15 minutes, for a total of 12,500 burden hours. The total burden represents burden hours, and SSA calculated no separate cost burden.

# 13. Annual Cost to the Respondents (Other)

This collection does not impose a known cost burden to the respondents.

#### 14. Annual Cost To Federal Government

The annual cost to the Federal Government is approximately \$77,000. This estimate is a projection of printing and distribution costs for the information collection.

## 15. Program Changes or Adjustments to the Information Collection Request

There have been no program changes or adjustments to this form, and there is no change in the public reporting burden.

### 16. Plans for Publication Information Collection Results

SSA will not publish the results of the information collection.

#### 17. Displaying the OMB Approval Expiration Date

OMB granted SSA an exemption from the requirement to print the OMB expiration date on its program forms. SSA produces millions of public-use forms with life cycles exceeding those of an OMB approval. Since SSA does not periodically revise and reprint its public-use forms (e.g., on an annual basis), OMB granted this exemption so SSA would not have to destroy stocks of otherwise useable forms with expired OMB approval

dates, avoiding Government waste.

# **18.** Exceptions to Certification Statement

SSA is not requesting an exception to the certification requirements at *5 CFR 1320.9* and related provisions at *5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3)*.

# B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods.

SSA does not use statistical methods for this information collection.